

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ADP-00 SS-15 SSO-00 EB-11 L-03

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APPROVED BY THE ACTING SECRETARY

NEA - MR. DAVIES

IO - MR. POPPER

S/S - MR. GAMMON

IO/TRC - MR. GRIP

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRN, IS, LE, U.S.

SUBJECT: ICAO ASSEMBLY

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ACTING SECRETARY

1. WE ARE REPEATING TO YOU SEPARATELY INSTRUCTIONS WHICH
ARE BEING SENT TO USDEL TO ICAO ASSEMBLY, WHICH CONVENES
IN ROME ON AUGUST 28. AS YOU WILL SEE, OUR OBJECTIVE IS
TO STEER ASSEMBLY AWAY FROM ANY ACTION SPECIFICALLY IMPOSING
PENALTIES ON ISRAEL AND TOWARD CONSIDERATION OF MEASURES
TO GUARD AGAINST FUTURE INCIDENTS OF UNLAWFUL INTERFERENCE
WITH INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION.

2. WE ANTICIPATE CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE FROM ARAB AND OTHER
DELEGATIONS FOR SANCTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL. LEBANON, AS
MAIN INJURED STATE IN AUGUST 10 INCIDENT, WILL OBVIOUSLY
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PLAY A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE IN ASSEMBLY IN THIS REGARD. ANY-

THING THAT CAN BE DONE TO BRING LEBANESE POSITION INTO LINE
WITH OUR OWN COULD BE CRUCIAL.

3. LEAVE IT TO YOUR DISCRETION AS TO HOW TO PROCEED BUT
WOULD SUGGEST THAT IN ANY CASE YOU DISCUSS ICAO ASSEMBLY
WITH FOREIGN MINISTER NAFFA. YOU SHOULD ASSURE NAFFA THAT
USG WANTS TO CONTINUE TO WORK CLOSELY WITH GOL, AS IT
DID IN SECURITY COUNCIL AND IN MONTREAL ICAO COUNCIL MEET-
ING; WE BELIEVE THIS COOPERATION HAS BEEN BENEFICIAL TO

BOTH SIDES AND WE WOULD NOT WANT TO SEE IT STOP NOW. CON-
SISTENT WITH POSITION WE HAVE TAKEN IN UNSC AND ICAO
COUNCIL, USG IS READY TO WORK WITH GOL ON RESOLUTION CON-
DEMNING AUGUST 10 ISRAEL ACTION. FOCUS OF COUNCIL'S ACTION
HOWEVER, SHOULD BE TOWARD WAYS TO SAFEGUARD INTER-
NATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION FROM SUCH INTERFERENCE IN FUTURE
AND MAKE PROVISION IN CIVIL AIR CONVENTIONS REGARDING INTER-
FERENCE COMMITTED BY STATES. YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR THAT
USG WILL OPPOSE ANY SPECIFIC APPLICATION OF PENALTIES IN
REGARD TO PAST INCIDENTS. SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT
ISRAEL'S DIVERSION OF AIRCRAFT ON AUGUST 10 IS BY NO MEANS
FIRST SUCH ACTION BY A STATE IN HISTORY OF CIVIL AVIATION.
IF MOVE WERE MADE TO PENALIZE ISRAEL, OTHER INSTANCES
(NOTABLY LIBYAN ACTION IN FORCING DOWN BRITISH AIRLINER
ENROUTE TO SUDAN IN 1971) WOULD HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED.

4. YOU MAY DRAW ON OUR CABLE OF INSTRUCTIONS TO USDEL
FOR ANY OTHER POINTS WHICH YOU THINK MAY BE APPROPRIATE
AND USEFUL WITH LEBANESE. ON PROCEDURAL SIDE, YOU SHOULD
EXPLAIN TO NAFFA THAT POSSIBILITY FOR OUR TWO DELEGATIONS
TO WORK TOGETHER EFFECTIVELY AT ROME WILL DEPEND IN LARGE
MEASURE, AS WE SEE IT, ON WILLINGNESS FROM LEBANESE SIDE
TO DEFER TABLING DRAFT RESOLUTION UNTIL WE AND OTHERS
HAVE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT CLOSELY THERE ABOUT ITS
CONTENTS. YOU SHOULD TELL NAFFA, THEREFORE, WE WOULD
VERY MUCH APPRECIATE IT IF HE COULD INSTRUCT LEBANESE DEL
NOT TO CIRCULATE TEXT OF DRAFT RESOLUTION IN ROME UNTIL
U.S. AND LEBANESE DELS HAVE HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT.
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